

Application No.: 10/691182  
Docket No.: FL0210 US CIP

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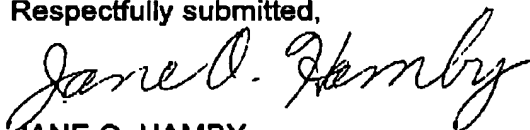
US 20050080211 discloses fluorination of polymers at [0014] according to the procedure of US Pat. No. 4,743,658. '658 teaches fluorination of particulate, that is solid, polymer (col. 4, lines 4-7). In the Examples section (col 4, line 60 bridging to col. 6, line 17) it is disclosed that polymer is put through an extruder and pelletized. There is no exposure to fluorine during this extrusion. The resulting pellets are then exposed to fluorine in a blender in which the pellets were tumbled during fluorine exposure (col 6, lines 20-56). This is not extruder fluorination, which is done by fluorinating molten polymer in an extruder. Therefore '211 does not teach fluorinating TFE/HFP copolymer in an extruder. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection based on this reference.

In addition, US Pat. No. 6,645,590, abstracts, cols. 1-3, and examples does not disclose fluorinating TFE/HFP copolymer in an extruder. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection based on this reference.

With respect to the rejection of claim 2 as being anticipated by US Pat. No. 6,645,590, cols. 2-6, as noted above, '590 does not disclose the steps of Claim 21. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection based on this reference.

There should be no fee due in connection with the filing of this Amendment. However, should a fee be due, please charge the applicable fee to Deposit Account 04-1928 (E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Company).

Respectfully submitted,



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